

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716)843-5814*

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*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# **PRESS RELEASE**

November 28, 2005

## **COUNTERFEITER SENTENCED TO 78 MONTHS IN PRISON**

**RE: UNITED STATES v. NATHANIEL POUNDS**

Kathleen M. Mehlretter, the Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that Nathaniel Pounds, age 49, of Rochester, New York, was sentenced to 78 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$126,405 by United States District Court Judge David G. Larimer in connection with his guilty plea to bank fraud on April 7, 2005, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344, which charges a maximum term of imprisonment of 30 years, a \$1,00,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the case, stated that on October 8, 2004, Pounds, along with Coston Harmon and a confidential informant, drove to a Chase Manhattan Bank located in Rochester. At the bank, Pounds directed the confidential informant to enter the bank and cash a forged personal check which

had been stolen from the United States mail. Postal inspectors then arrested Pounds and Harmon in the bank's parking lot.

In addition to the above, Pounds admitted to participating with others on other occasions to cash stolen and counterfeit checks at area banks totaling more than \$126,405. On November 22, 2005, Harmon was sentenced to 24 months in prison.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the United States Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of William E. Kezer.